



Board delays vote on I-10 widening project

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The Arizona State Transportation Board said Friday morning it needs 15 days to decide how to spend \$10 million earmarked for the accelerated widening of Interstate 10 through the Southwest Valley.

The board, meeting in Sedona, discussed the issue extensively in the morning before asking for more time to get a legal opinion from the Arizona Attorney General's Office.

Avondale, Goodyear and Litchfield Park are deadlocked over how to pay for partial costs of widening the freeway four years ahead of schedule.

Originally, the state Legislature earmarked \$10 million for the project. But when it was time for the Maricopa Association of Governments to disburse the money, the three cities were awarded only \$7 million, leaving Avondale, Goodyear and Litchfield Park to come up with the difference.

When the transportation board meets again, it could settle the dispute. But it's unknown if the final decision will be favorable to the cities and be issued without delaying construction.

The Arizona Department of Transportation has been ready to advertise the project to contractors for more than a month but has been waiting for a funding agreement to be settled among MAG, the transportation board and the three cities stuck in the funding feud.